Notice of Hearing

The Department of Natural Resources announces that it will hold a public hearing on a permanent rule, Board Order WY-29-19, to revise chs. NR 1, 107, 109, 150, 193, 329 and 345, relating to aquatic plant management, manual removal and mechanical control regulations, aquatic habitat protection, and surface water grants, at the time and virtual location shown below.

Hearing Information

Date: February 22, 2022

Time: 1:00 PM.

Virtual Location Link:

• Zoom Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89200595214

Call in Number: 1-312-626-6799Meeting ID: 892 0059 5214

Rule Information

The aquatic plant management program regulates the chemical, mechanical, physical and biological control of aquatic organisms in order to protect and develop diverse and stable native aquatic plant communities. The program is currently regulated under two separate but related administrative rules, ch. NR 107, Wis. Adm. Code – chemical control and ch. NR 109, Wis. Adm. Code – mechanical, physical, burning, and manual control.

The proposed recreated ch. NR 107, Wis. Adm. Code, will unify all control activities under a consistent set of procedures and policies that align with current state and federal law, improving administrative consistency and efficiency as well as customer service. The proposed rule will also update the program to employ contemporary management practices such as integrated pest management to control aquatic invasive and nuisance-causing species.

Accessibility

For the hearing or visually impaired, non-English speakers, or those with other personal circumstances which might make communication at the hearing difficult, DNR will, to the maximum extent possible and with reasonable advance notice, provide aids including an interpreter, or a non-English, large-print, or recorded version of hearing documents. To access these resources, please contact the email address listed below as soon as possible.

Appearances at the Hearing and Submittal of Written Comments

The public has the opportunity to testify at the hearing. To register and join the hearing online or by phone, use the information provided above. Pre-registration is also available and is strongly encouraged if you plan to provide spoken comments during the hearing. To pre-register, either use the Zoom link above or download and complete the fillable Hearing Appearance form and send it to madison.johansen@wisconsin.gov.

Comments on the proposed rule must be received on or before March 1, 2022. Written comments may be submitted by U.S. mail, E-mail, or through the internet and will have the same weight and effect as oral statements presented at the public hearing.

Written comments and any questions on the proposed rules should be submitted to:

Department of Natural Resources Attn: Madi Johansen – WY/3 P.O. Box 7921 101 S. Webster Street, Madison, WI 53707-7921 madison.johansen@wisconsin.gov

The rule may be viewed at: https://dnr.wi.gov/news/input/ProposedPermanent.html

Comments can be made at: <u>DNRAdministrativeRulesComments@wisconsin.gov</u>

The rule may be reviewed, and comments made at: http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code/chr/hearings.

Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

The proposed rule reduces the compliance requirements for small businesses by incorporating less stringent compliance or reporting requirements, less stringent schedules or deadlines for compliance or reporting, and consolidation or simplification of reporting requirements.

Agency Small Business Regulatory Coordinator

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